

Statement from the Greek Community of Toronto (GCT)

TORONTO, Ont. (November 27 , 2017) - The Board of Directors of the Greek Community of Toronto (GCT) is disappointed that it has had to file a civil lawsuit against the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Toronto (Canada), the Metropolitan, as well as four priests, three adult family members of the priest at St. John's Greek Orthodox Church, and a select group of individuals who operated the St. John Ladies Philoptochos under the auspices of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Toronto (Canada).

The Statement of Claim was issued on October 18, 2017 (Toronto Court Registry, Court File No.: CV-17-584750) and the claim is currently being served on the named defendants. None of the many serious allegations in the claim have yet been proven in court.

For almost three years, the GCT has tried to establish financial transparency and accountability for the donations made at the four Toronto churches it owns with little success. This has lead the GCT to believe that donated funds have been misappropriated.

This is a complex situation that has been ongoing and has not been resolved through mediation which has now resulted in this lawsuit. The GCT is simply seeking to uphold the recognized principles of transparency, accountability, responsibility and governance and to ensure compliance with the Charities Act, Canada Revenue Agency regulations and other laws and regulations of Canada.

This is a fair and reasonable expectation.

The GCT hopes that this lawsuit will be settled quickly.

The Greek Community of Toronto (GCT)

The Greek community of Toronto was established in 1909, incorporated in 1965 and is a registered non-profit charitable organization. Serving more than 150,000 Canadians of Hellenic descent in the Greater Toronto Area, the GCT owns and operates four churches as well as a cultural department which provides social services for the needy, Greek language supplementary schools, theatre and dance, parades, and an annual festival.

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